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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**U.S. ATTORNEY ANNOUNCES \$2,115,000 GRANT
AWARD FROM CRIME VICTIMS FUND FOR STATE
VICTIM ASSISTANCE & COMPENSATION PROGRAMS**

United States Attorney Colm F. Connolly announced today that the State of Delaware has received a \$2,115,000 federal grant award to assist and compensate crime victims. The grant award is the result of a program established by the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA). The United States Attorney's Offices and federal courts nationwide collect fines, special assessments and bail forfeitures in criminal cases and submit the proceeds to the Crime Victims Fund for dissemination to the states in grant awards.

Two Delaware agencies were selected to share in this grant award - the Delaware Criminal Justice Council and the Delaware Violent Crimes Compensation Board. The Delaware Criminal Justice Council will use its grant award to supply services to crime victims, including victims of rape, driving under the influence of alcohol offenses, and child and domestic abuse, while the Delaware Violent Crimes Compensation Board will reimburse victims for crime-related losses, including medical expenses, lost wages, and counseling.

Mr. Connolly stated "this grant will provide Delaware with substantial financial resources to help victims recover from the crimes committed against them. It is fitting that the fines,

assessments, and bond forfeitures collected by the United States Attorney's Offices and the federal courts are being used to assist victims."

For more information, contact Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert J. Prettyman at (302) 573-6277.

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